



**The Judge Advocate General's
2005 Veterans Day Message**

This week we pause to honor all veterans – past and present – for their courage and contributions to the security of our nation and the pursuit of freedom throughout the world. The Veterans Day holiday takes on added significance with our nation at war. On this solemn and important day, I join the rest of our nation in honoring America's veterans, and all of our brothers and sisters in arms who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country.

This week also marks the second anniversary of the loss of two very special members of the JAG Corps family: CW5 Sharon Swartworth and SGM Cornell Gilmore. They, along with fallen heroes SGT Michael Merila and CPL Sascha Struble, serve as powerful reminders of the JAG Corps' contributions to our nation's defense. Their courage and sacrifices will forever serve as an inspiration to us all.

I want to personally thank you for your service. You voluntarily forego personal comfort and financial reward in order to serve our nation. How noble. How humbling. I salute you for your selfless service during this critical time in our nation's history. It is an honor and privilege to serve with you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "SCC Black", followed by a horizontal line.

**SCOTT C. BLACK
Major General, USA
The Judge Advocate General**